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No. 16,920.

號十月八年七十壹百九千壹英

SONGKONG, TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1917.

日下次歲年六國民華中

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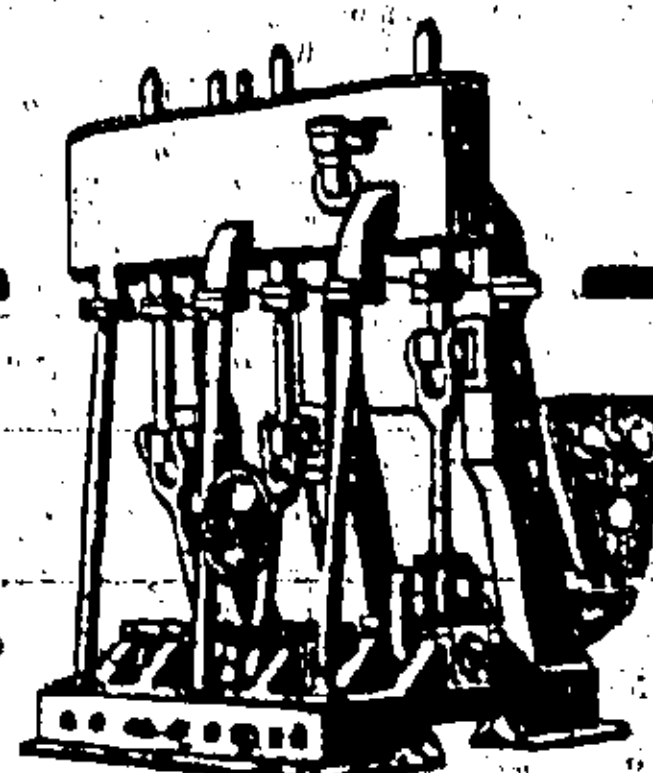
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HONG PING WA, Manager.

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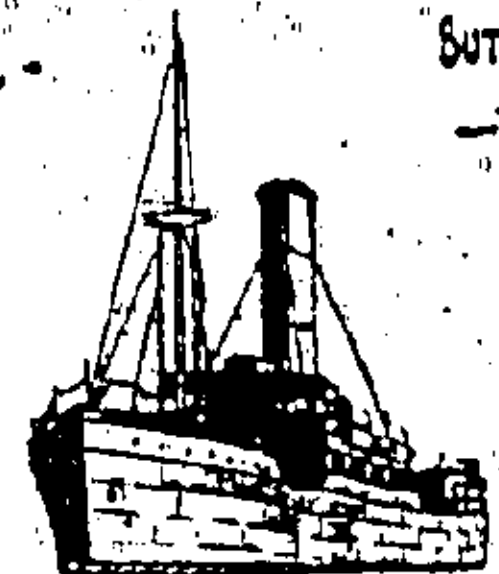
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Telegraph add: "Peaceful,"  
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Manager.

## THE WAR.

### LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

#### THE WESTERN FRONT.

##### ENEMY ATTACK AT HOLLEBEKE.

LONDON, August 6.

12.40 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig

reports:—

An enemy attack in the neigh-  
bourhood of Hollebeke was driven off  
before it reached our lines.

An attack, under cover of a heavy  
barrage, against Westhoek, was  
equally unsuccessful.

We repulsed a raid to the east of  
Epehy.

##### SITUATION IN BELGIUM UNCHANGED.

LONDON, August 6.

3.30 p.m.

A French communiqué states:—  
The situation in Belgium is un-  
changed.

German attempts to the east of  
Moisy Farm and in the regions of  
Bovelle, Avocourt, Wood and in  
Alsace, failed under our fire.

10.55 p.m.

A French communiqué reports:—

There has been reciprocal and marked  
artillery activity in the Champagne  
mountains and in the region of both  
banks of the Meuse, notably on the  
Avocourt and Louvenet sectors.

##### BRITISH LINES ADVANCED NEAR LENS.

LONDON, August 6.

11.45 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig

reports:—

We drove off an attempted raid, to  
the north of Arleux.

We slightly advanced our lines to the  
south-west and to the west of Lens.

Our aeroplanes resumed bombing  
raids yesterday. We brought down  
five enemy machines and drove down  
three. One of ours is missing.

##### THE MECHANICAL METHODS OF THE HUNS.

EXPENSIVE ATTACKS.

LONDON, August 6.

Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters states:—

The Hun is very mechanical in  
his methods. The lure of certain  
places seems to be irresistible and,  
as far as one can see, he is not always  
governed by a purely tactical reason.

The Germans, on Saturday night,  
heavily counter-attacked at Holle-  
beke. Owing to the dense weather,  
our gunners did not see the signals  
and the enemy gained a footing in  
the village. Runners were sent back  
with messages and the artillery, with  
wonderful promptitude, put down a  
barrage upon the Germans. When  
this had lasted for a while the range  
was lengthened, so cutting off the  
back area, and our troops attacked  
and drove back the enemy upon a  
curtain of fire with the result that  
when daylight came, the ground was  
seen to be strewn with German dead.

One might have thought that this  
experience would have been enough  
for the Hun, but last night, his storm  
troops again attacked at Hollebeke,  
after a bombardment to which our  
guns ferociously replied. A few of  
them may have reached our wire, but  
certainly none got further, and the  
attempt was another costly failure.

It will be interesting to see how  
often the Germans throw their waves  
against this spot—whether, indeed,  
they mean to repeat their Verdun  
tactics at Hollebeke. Throughout  
yesterday afternoon a big movement  
of troops behind their lines was  
plainly visible and the artillery duly  
attended to these columns.

The weather continued fine during  
the day, though more misty than our  
airmen and gunners could wish.

#### GERMAN REPORT.

A German official message, trans-  
mitted by wireless, states:—

There has been an artillery duel of  
great intensity on some sectors in  
Flanders. We repulsed strong Eng-  
lish attacks between the Ypres-  
Messines road and Lys.

We recovered some machine-guns  
from 25 "Tanks," which were lying  
destroyed before our front.

#### GREECE AS A BELLIGERENT.

A SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

ATHENS, August 6.

In the Chamber, after taking the  
oath of the Constitution, the King,  
in a speech from the Throne, de-  
clared that Greece had now adopted  
the attitude which duty and honour  
imposed upon her, towards her brave  
and chivalrous Ally—the defence of  
the rights of Hellenism and a debt  
of gratitude for her original libera-  
tion and the protection which she  
had always enjoyed.

The King referred to Bulgaria as  
Greece's hereditary enemy, and paid  
a tribute to the heroism of the Greek  
troops at the front, which was a most  
happy augury for the ultimate issue  
of the struggle.

#### THE RUSSIAN FRONT

##### ENEMY PROGRESS.

LONDON, August 6.

A Russian official message, transmitted  
by wireless, states:—

We occupied a series of heights to  
the north-east of Czernowitz. We  
drove back the enemy to Toporovec and  
Roconce, and subsequently we were  
forced to retire to our main position.  
The enemy pressed us back to the south  
of Czernowitz, and occupied Radauc and  
four villages.

The enemy continued his offensive in  
the direction of Kimpoling.

The enemy has crossed the Bistritza.

#### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, August 6.

A German official message, trans-  
mitted by wireless, states:—

The Russians are preparing a battle  
between the Dniester and Pruth.  
The enemy is retreating to the south-  
east of Czernowitz.

We captured Radautz.

Reported Rumanian attacks to the  
north of the Putna valley failed.

#### THE MINED DUTCH LINER.

##### PASSENGERS' EXPERIENCES.

AMSTERDAM, August 7.

The Dutch liner *Noordam*, which  
struck a mine on August 4, was  
injured in her hold which filled with  
water, but she is able to proceed  
under her own steam and is reported  
to be lying three miles from the  
coast, near the new waterway. Her  
cargo is being discharged, after which  
it is hoped to bring her to Rotter-  
dam. The passengers were landed  
at Helder. They were half-dressed  
and some collapsed from shock and  
exposure.

A Dutch official, M. Dingenens,  
who was travelling from Java, stated  
that, according to the eastern eye-  
witness, many passengers were taking  
an afternoon nap in their cabins  
when the ship was mined, hence their  
half-clad condition. The passengers  
got into the boats in an orderly  
fashion, but although they were  
only a few miles from the shore, it  
was seventeen hours before they  
landed.

#### THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE.

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 6.

The International Socialist Conference  
is fixed for September 9.

(Continued on Page 5.)

## The Chinese Mail

華字日報

THE LEADING CHINESE PUBLICATION

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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YOUNG MAN with experience as TYPIST and STENOGRAPHER required by shipping firm. State previous experience and salary required. Apply— Box 450. C/o "CHINA MAIL" Office. Hongkong, August 1, 1917. 1997

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NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company, will be held at the Company's Office, 87, Des Voeux Road, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, August 15th, 1917, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of presenting the Report of the General Managers, and Statement of Accounts to May 31st, 1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from August 6th to 15th, 1917, both days inclusive.

GORDON &amp; CO.

General Managers.

Hongkong, August 4, 1917. 2013

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Situated at VIETRY, (TONEIN).

THIS MILL is built upon a property measuring 14,000 sq. meters, and consists of the following buildings and machinery:—

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FROM ALL TOBACCONISTS.

This Advertisement is issued by the

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## THE BRITISH ARMY.

## THE SHORT-RANGE OFFENSIVE.

## HINDENBURG'S DESTINATION.

In the successive advances of the British Armies, on the offensive, from Neuve Chapelle onwards, we see not only constantly increasing means on the "British" side, but constantly improving tactics born of hard-won experience. We could not, assuredly, have won an Arras or a Messines in 1914 or 1915, writes the Military Correspondent of "The Times," because the means were wanting, and in 1917 we have not only infinitely better war-equipment than in those years, but all the important experience of 1915 which completed the education of our Armies and has been turned to the best account. The prudent and limited offensive, of which Arras and Messines are typical examples, is the form of aggressive action which comports best with the present situation and with the relative numbers engaged on each side. It has brought us complete triumphs, without excessive loss, and has spared us the great sacrifices and disappointments which more daring strategy has brought to all armies on the Western front since the initial rush of the numerically superior German armies of 1914 was stayed at the Marne and at Ypres. When, as on April 9th, and June 7th, the prudent short-range offensive is combined with a complete and scientific utilisation of all the new weapons and contrivances, then we find the enemy not only beaten, but prostrated and reduced to a position of manifest inferiority. At the least possible cost to ourselves we do the enemy the greatest possible harm, and when, as at Messines, he allows us 36 hours to consolidate our position, and then counter-attacks, the result is particularly disastrous to him.

We see again in operation at Messines all the causes which contributed to the victory of April 9th—namely, the careful preparation of the attack in all its parts,

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HAMBERLAIN'S Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy should be packed in your hand luggage when going on a journey. Change of water, diet and temperature will tend to produce bowel trouble, and this medicine cannot be secured on board the train or steamship. It may save much suffering and inconvenience if you have it handy. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

the thorough rehearsal of the operation, the use of models from which commanders and units learn the exact missions confided to them, the concentration of a formidable mass of guns, the exact registration of batteries upon their targets thanks to the co-operation of gunners, airmen, and survey companies, the preliminary bombardment and the testing of its results by raids until the position is reported ripe for assault, the clearance of the wire, the co-operation of tanks, air-men, and miners in the actual battle, the relentless rush of the infantry behind the creeping barrage, the limitation of infantry action to precise and not too distant objectives, and finally the rapid consolidation of the position when captured, an art in which our troops excel. A British attack of this character is almost irresistible, but against a hard fighting enemy like the German, against defences prepared long before with the utmost skill, and against such an opposing mass of guns as that which the enemy can bring up, thanks to the inactivity on the Eastern front, no part of the preparation can with safety be omitted or slurred over. Generals Petain and Foch, who have won so many triumphs from tactics similar to those of Arras and Messines, will assuredly not have been backward in rejoicing that the doctrine of the Allied directing staffs is now completely in accord.

We quite see the German need to exalt Hindenburg to the skies, but we have not noticed him soaring there. He and his Ludendorff have fought the campaign in the West, since they took charge, like very ordinary generals, and except in their boasting and misleading reports we can find nothing in which they excel. To lose 800,000 men and 500 guns when they admit that they are nearly equal to us in strength is not exactly a proof of competence, and on the whole we think that the lesser Molke and Falkenhayn did just as well. We must allow one distinction to Hindenburg—namely, that he has fought a defensive action in Belgium and has lost a battle there. None of his predecessors has been so unfortunate. It was for this reason, no doubt, that the great German counter-attack on the evening of June 24th was launched, for the moral effect of a lost battle in Belgium is as damaging as the material. Our gallant Second Army stood the test, and while completely wrecking the fresh German reserves, gave good ground at all points. We know our Germans well. Their particular mission is to serve as a wheateater for the British sword, and very admirably they serve this purpose. It

must be an immense satisfaction to their professional pride that they are creating such an excellent army to oppose them. It must be costing them some four millions sterling a day to do so, but after all the war was theirs, and they must know what is worth their doing.

To this we may add that one of the correspondents at Headquarters notes the success is received with immense satisfaction by the Army, tempered by mild surprise that it should have been so easy. It has made into certainty the confidence which already existed that we can beat the Germans out of any position in which they choose to entrench themselves. That our men were better fighting men than the Germans we have long known, but German military bluster had so impressed the world, and we so depreciate ourselves, that we have been slow to believe that we were the masters of the Germans at the mechanics of the game, and could organise victory better than they could, and were their superiors in sheer hard hitting. Now we do believe and know it. It is not too much to say that in mere technical perfection and irresistible momentum nothing that the Germans have ever done in the way of an offensive was other than amateurish compared with this last attack of ours. The French have been quick to recognise the splendour of the success. Finally, we may note that not the least remarkable thing about the operation has been the way in which our guns have followed up the infantry, so that our new front, being slightly shorter, is covered by an even greater weight of artillery than was the front before the battle began.

## COUGHING INTO CONSUMPTION

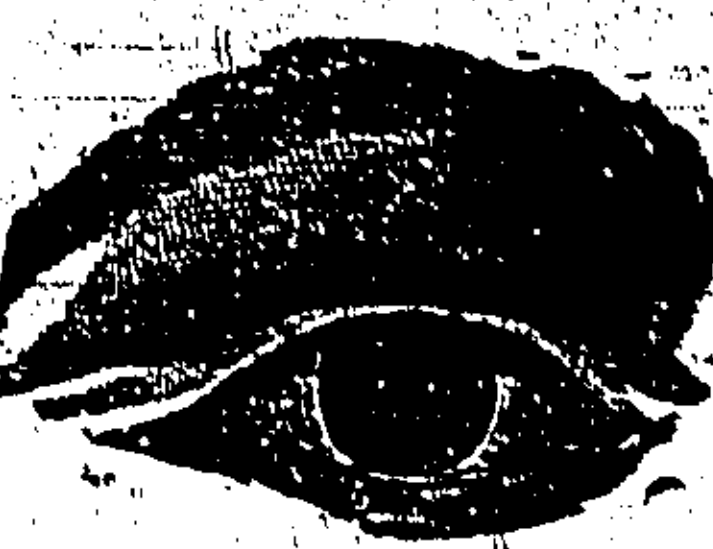
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The Food Drink with all the Virtues.

1. Generates force and sustains it.
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Commercial Dock	467	27'	10'	7'	7'
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Private Dock	257	27'	10'	7'	7'
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As follows:—

Four Upholstered Suites, Arm-chairs and Sofas, Card Tables, Bedroom Furniture, comprising Double and Single Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., Dining Stoves, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, etc., Bath Room Utensils, Roll-top Desks and Writing Tables, Sundry Electro Plated Ware, etc.

3 Pianos in good condition, Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, Sundry Blackwood Furniture, including Large Overmantel Engravings, Pictures, etc., etc.

Also  
Tennis Poles and Netting, Carpets (New and second hand), etc., etc.

And  
A few lots of Turkish Bath Sheets, Towels, Single and Double Bed Sheets, Bed Quilts, etc., etc.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)

Terms:—Cash.  
HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, August 1, 1917. 2600

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction.

(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on

**SATURDAY,**

the 11th August, 1917, at 10.30 a.m.,

at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,

Des Vaux Road, Corner of

Ice House Street.

SUNDY HOUSEHOLD LINEN,

Comprising:—

Large Turkish Bath Sheets, Turkish Towels, Single and Double Bed Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Quilts, White Shirtings, etc., etc.

Also  
A CONSIGNMENT OF  
BRASS AND KINKOSAN WARE,  
Comprising:—

Ash Trays, Jardiniere, Flower Holders, Incense Burners, Vases, Finger Bowls, Ornaments, etc., etc.

Terms:—Cash.  
HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, July 30, 1917. 1696

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

BY direction of the Government of Hongkong Messrs. HUGHES and HOUGH have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

**MONDAY,**

the 13th day of August, 1917 at 3 p.m.

at their Sales Room, Ice House Street,

Victoria, Hongkong.

The Following VALUABLE LEASE-

HOLD PROPERTY situated at Victoria

Hongkong VIZ:—

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of ground situated at Victoria aforesaid and known and registered in the Land Office as SECTION A OF MARINE LOT NO. 101 and SECTION "B" OF MARINE LOT NO. 101 Together with the messuage erections and buildings thereon known as No. 7 Queen's Road Central, Victoria aforesaid. Term 999 years created by a Crown Lease dated the 8th day of April 1868.

Area in respect of Section "A" of Marine Lot No. 101—8445 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$34.40.

Area in respect of Section "B" of Marine Lot No. 101—876 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$6.76.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to—

JOHN-ON, STOKES & MASTER,  
Princes Buildings,  
Ice House Street, Hongkong.

Solicitors for the Liquidator of THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

or to  
Messrs. HUGHES and HOUGH,  
The Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, May 9, 1917. 1777

## STRENGTH IS WHAT YOU NEED.

If you are tired, weak, run-down, and lack ambition or nerve force, you are running the risk of having a serious breakdown if you fail to secure proper treatment at once.

For those who are suffering from loss of strength, or nerve troubles there is nothing that can equal Sargol for reviving the nerve cells and bringing strength and energy to every part of the body. Sargol has increased the strength of delicate, run-down, nervous people more than 300 per cent. in many instances. It does not matter whether you have lost your strength and nerve power from over-work, illness, or from business worries Sargol will bring back your old-time strength and energy if you give it a fair trial. It strengthens the system and tones it up as no other preparation can.

Sargol is a doctor's prescription, and not a patent medicine. It is so carefully prepared that even the weakest stomach will quickly assimilate its strength and nerve-restoring properties. That is why it is prescribed so freely by physicians for those whose strength is below normal. If you are wondering if Sargol will actually benefit you, try it. You will do the one thing which can convince you—give Sargol a trial! And with your nerves begging you for help, and your friends worrying about your condition, why not do this soon?

Sargol is a well-known and recommended English brand, which has been sold in England by such high-class firms as Boots, Cash, Chemists, Harrods, Selfridge's, Taylor's Drug Stores, Lewis & Baines, and Wm. Whiteley's. Sargol is sold here in Hongkong by such well-known chemists as—S. Watson & Co. Ltd., The Victoria Dispensary, The Phoenix, Queen's Dispensary, The Edward Dispensary, and by other leading dealers everywhere.

## AUCTION.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction.

(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on

**FRIDAY,**

the 10th August, 1917, at 10.45 a.m.,

at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,

Des Vaux Road, Corner of

Ice House Street.

A CONSIGNMENT OF

TOBACCONISTS' SUNDRIES,

Consisting of:—

Pipes of all Description, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Tobacco Pouches, Ladies Purse, Military Hair Brushes, etc., etc., etc.

Also  
A number of Japanese Tea and Coffee Sets, Screens, Carved Nikko Tables, etc., etc., etc.

And  
One Motor Cycle 3 H. P. in good running order.

Terms:—Cash.  
HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, August 2, 1917. 2604

## FOR SALE.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell

(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,

Des Vaux Road, Corner of

Ice House Street.

ONE 16 BORE HAMMERLESS GUN

BY "BLAND"

In Good Condition.

Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, July 31, 1917. 1679

## EUROPEAN AGENCY.

WHO IS SALE Indents promptly

executed at lowest cash prices

for all British and Continental goods,

including:

Books and Stationery,  
Broths, Shoes and Leather,  
Chemicals and Drugists' Sundries,  
China, Pottery and Glassware,  
Cycles, Motor Cars and Accessories,  
Drugs, Millinery and Piece Goods,  
Fancy Goods and Furnishery,  
Hardware, Machinery and Metals,  
Jewellery, Plate and Watches,  
Photographic and Optical Goods,  
Provisions and Oils and Stores,  
etc., etc.

Commission 2% to 5%.

Trade Discounts allowed.

Special Quotations on Demand.

Sample Order from £10 upwards.

Consignments of Produce Sold on Account.

**WILLIAM WILSON & SONS**

(Established 1814).

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35, Abchurch Lane, LONDON, E.C.

Cable Address: "AUSTIN" London.

## AMERICA AT WAR.

WORK OF THE SEA FORCES.

DESCRIBED BY MR. JOSEPHUS DANIELS, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, when he was asked to talk about the war in general and our sea forces in particular, declared his faith in the old theory. "There is an antidote for every poison," and then applied the theory to the submarine situation. He seemed confident that the antidote in this case would be an American discovery—perhaps a single device, more probably a combination of various protective and destructive agencies, all co-ordinated to work together to rid the seas of the present menace.

More than that, in answer to a question concerning Kiel, the Secretary said that no place was impregnable, and that nothing was impossible.

His declaration of faith in the ability of the Allies to convert Germany's effort to convert the Atlantic Ocean into a deadly ambulance was made at the Navy Department, in the course of an interview for which Mr. Daniels found time while eating lunch at his desk, so that it might not break the endless schedule of affairs which heap up on a Cabinet officer in war time.

## ANTIDOTE TO SUBMARINE.

Will the antidote be so effective that the submarine will become a useless discarded toy of war craft in the future? he was asked.

"Yes," Mr. Daniels replied. "I do not think there is any doubt on that point. It will be a useless thing, because we have got to make it so in this war. Furthermore, it will be put in the same category with the submarine after the war and absolutely 'ruled out of warfare by civilized nations. Remember that this war is not going to end until those same civilized nations are sure of themselves in declaring that the barbarities which have developed in the last three years have ended for all time."

But for the present we are concerned chiefly with the problem of making the submarine useless to the enemy. There are two main things to do. The first must be done simultaneously, each with daily increasing energy, until the danger of starving out our allies is at an end. These two things are, the increasing of the number of ships in which supplies can be carried, and the development of every offensive agency we now have against the submarine and the discovery of what will prove to be the offensive.

Either indifference to this very real menace or getting into a panic because of it would be fatal. There is no indifference and will not be, but the world was dangerously close to a feeling of panic in April when the submarine reached the maximum of its destruction. I mean, of course, the maximum up to the present.

## THE TORPEDO-BOAT DESTROYER.

"So far the torpedo-boat destroyer has been the most effective weapon against the submarine. We have our own destroyers there as everybody now knows, working with those of the British and French Navies. There will be more, and there cannot be too many. It may be only a coincidence, but the rate of destruction of cargo ships fell off very materially at about the time the American destroyers added their strength to the patrol. The great value of the destroyer is indicated by the fact that most of the merchantmen that have gone down have been destroyed by gunfire from submarines working on the surface. Destruction by torpedo has been relatively small. If the combined fleet of destroyers of the various navies is made sufficiently large to compel the submarine to stay under water and fire nothing but torpedoes, the U-boat activity will be very materially curtailed. The number of attacks before returning to the base would then be fixed by the small number of torpedoes that could be carried. But so long as the surface of the sea is a safe place for the U-boat and she can come up to use her guns, her destructive power against freight ships is such that no building programme for new tonnage, as yet planned can offset it."

"Effective as it is," however, the destroyer is not the last word in the offensive that we must have. Neither is the net, although that, too, has been useful, and the British Government is still experimenting with net devices. The principle of the net has by no means been discarded. The hydroplane is another factor which offers promise of further development and usefulness, both as a means to find the submarine and as a machine from which bombs can be dropped. Then there is the difficult but as yet undeveloped protective method of conveying, which will be adopted wherever it can be done wisely.

"Of course, a question that is asked as frequently as any other is, 'why not destroy the menace at its origin by capturing the submarine bases?' but that is much easier said than done. It is all very well to say, 'damo the torpedoes,' but a navy cannot invite annihilation by going into mined harbours, and ships can do little or nothing against coast fortifications equipped with 14-inch guns. Experience at Gallipoli emphasizes the fact."

Naturally, the references to mined harbours and coast fortifications suggested

Kiel, and the probability that it was at least a dream of every man in the British and American fleets that some day the German navy might be smashed in its very lair.

"There is more than one way to kill a cat," replied Mr. Daniels. "No place is impregnable. Nothing is impossible."

But let us come back to the matter of submarines. It is possible, or rather probable, that the real offensive will be a combination of the agencies I have mentioned, plus something yet to be perfected and tested. I cannot say that it has not yet been discovered. Perhaps it has been. It may be one of the many inventions which the various Governments are now working on. Practically the entire inventive genius of America is engaged on this problem. I receive no less than a hundred letters every day from all parts of the United States on this one subject of an effective offensive against the submarine. Many of these letters are accompanied by suggestions and plans for devices, all of which are turned over to a board of experts for thorough study. We are already making several experiments on a very large scale, and, as I have said already, I believe there is an antidote for every poison.

## SUBMARINE DIFFICULTIES.

There is one factor which makes for our advantage in this war on the submarine, but which we know little about. That is the difficulties of the submarines themselves. They are made up of the most delicate machinery and are the hardest things in the world to keep in order. I have no doubt that many of these boats have been lost without any record of the fact reaching the Allies, and one of the most pitiful stories of the war that we will pick up gradually after the war will be that of the fate of the U-boat crews."

The Secretary was asked if he could summarize the American naval policy for the period of the war and say something about the ships and personnel which have received, since America entered the war, the highest praise from experts of other nations. To mention only a few of such foreign experts who have declared that the United States has a navy worthy of her and fit for the present emergency: they are Mr. Balfour, formerly First Lord of the British Admiralty; Vice-Admiral Jellicoe, and Vice-Admiral (Chaplain) and Rear-Admiral Grasse of France. The things that these men said about the American Navy were not the mere international compliments of distinguished visitors. They were the critical, war-time appraisal of men who are depending on the co-operation of that navy to win.

"Why, yes," Mr. Daniels said, "the policy is simply to do at any given moment the thing most effective to win the war for our allies and ourselves. As to the specific things we have done so far and are still doing in accordance with that policy, I can mention four. We have armed and manned with navy gun crews about 200 merchant ships, and are increasing the number daily. We have sent our destroyers to the other side to help the British fleet in the war on the submarines, and will send more. We are taking over the cruise patrol of the Atlantic Coast on this side of the ocean from Brazil to Newfoundland. We have trained our naval gunners in the most difficult marksmanship in the world, until they have become as efficient in training a small gun on a distant, hardly visible and constantly moving periscope as they are in shooting the big turret guns at a target as big as a battleship. And a big work for the navy that is in the future will be the conveying of our troops."

## ARMING OF MERCHANT SHIPS.

The arming of the merchantmen came before this country had entered the war and was ordered by the President. This was a new problem for the navy, something which never had been contemplated before by the United States Government, and it was not the easiest thing in the world to find all the guns that were needed. Some of them we had to take from ships of the navy. Then the owners of the merchant vessels called upon us to furnish the gun crews. From the mere technical navy viewpoint, that was not the thing to do. We needed the men on our naval vessels, but it proved to be the next thing that had to be done, so we manned every armed merchant ship with efficient gunners. I gave orders that none but the best marksmen in the navy should be sent into this new service, because of the extreme difficulties of the shooting they were to be called upon to do. So it meant a temporary drain on the battleship crews.

To some of the larger merchant vessels I sent as many as sixteen men each. But this has turned out to be one of the best things the navy has ever done because of the training it has afforded in the new kind of shooting that has become necessary in this war. Every battleship has become a school for marksmanship with a periscope as the target and with remarkable results. Previously, all the emphasis had been placed on the necessity of accuracy in working the big guns in the turret, with the result that the American Navy had the best records of the world at big gun practice. Needless to say, we are not neglecting that turret work, nor neglecting our skill in shooting submarines at the expense of our preparation for fighting bigger ships if the opportunity comes. Up to the present time the dreadnoughts have no work in this war except to wait in complete readiness for the big thing that they may be called upon to do. In that respect our fleet would be a fair match for the Germans, even assuming the apparently impossible situation in which we alone would be called upon to engage in a great sea fight off our own coast.

"Another big educational work now in progress on the battleships is the training of the engine and fire room crews, so that they will be ready for efficient service aboard the big merchant ships that will be used later on for the transportation of our troops. America, as a nation, has become so hicking in what you may call a sea-going personnel that we have to look to the navy as the source of supply in any big emergency."

The next service undertaken by the navy was the sending of our destroyers over to the other side for actual participation in the hostilities at sea. This was done in spite of the theory that the place of the destroyers was with the battleship, that every dreadnought should have at least four destroyers to act as her eyes and scouts and screen her with their smoke. But a great many former theories have had to be revised in this war, so we sent the type of craft that, under normal conditions, would have been the last to go, and our Allies were greatly elated by our decision.

## SMALLER VESSELS MOST USEFUL.

Both the English and French Commissions told us that the smaller vessels of our navy would be the most useful to them, and they expressed the hope that we might be able to send destroyers, although they did not expect it. But after consultation with Admiral Beatty, Chief of Naval Operations, and later with Admiral Maye, Commander in Chief of the Atlantic Fleet, I ordered the destroyers to go, even though it seemed a somewhat risky thing to do. They were the boats most needed, and, therefore, the sending of them was in harmony with the present American naval policy, as I have already stated, to do at any given moment the thing most effective to win the war for our Allies and ourselves. No one of the nations involved in this war can hesitate to do the thing that best makes for the benefit of all to avoid or lessen risk for itself.

In addition to the destroyers we have sent over enough fuel and supply ships to serve our own naval vessels without calling on the Allies, and we also have placed several of our small craft at the disposal of France. These latter ships are already there, and the number will be increased. We have two bases established on the French coast. Still more, we have sent over 180 navy destroyers to France, and are now preparing to establish two customary units in England and use in France.

"Of course, I cannot say how many destroyers were sent, but there were enough to be effective, and more will go later. Sixty new destroyers for the American Navy are now under construction. The time and money expended in their construction has been cut from the customary eighteen months to one year. We hope to have them on time within the shorter period."

But I can say of our ships now on the other side that they are all manned by picked officers and men. Nobody was allowed to go on this expedition who had not had experience on destroyers, which is, in these days, the hardest and most exacting service in the navy. But it develops a wonderful breed of men. They are young, alert, ambitious. The Captain of a destroyer is generally a Lieutenant Commander and in their construction has been cut from the customary eighteen months to one year. We hope to have them on time within the shorter period."

## THE COAST PATROL.

"You may or may not remember that it was Sims who declared, at a dinner in London about fifteen years ago, that blood was thicker than water, and that, if war ever came, England could count upon America as an ally. Germany resented that, officially through the diplomatic channels, and Sims was reprimanded. Of course he should have been reprimanded. I told him so myself not so very long ago, and then selected him to go to England and France before America entered the war. Even then I thought I could see the clouds and felt the need of getting in touch with the British and French Admirals. Sims was the youngest Rear-Admiral in the service. It was for that reason a violation of another tradition to select him, but he has been the right man in the right place, both from our point of view and that of our allies, which, after all, is the same point of view in everything we undertake."

As to the fourth thing I mentioned, the coast patrol, that is as thorough as we can make it and is under the command of one of our ablest officers, Captain Henry K. Wilson, who soon to be made an Admiral. In addition to the big naval vessels assigned to this patrol, there are small craft on guard, which will be steadily increased in number. These, together with the coast guard and lighthouse services, the Navy Department has taken over for the purpose of an efficient coast protection. There is not a harbour not over a cove, between Brazil and Newfoundland that we do not know about. We have investigated many reports and rumours that the Germans had submarine bases on this coast, but none has been discovered. To do all this work and put a tremendous pressure on the officers and men of the navy, we need more of both, in spite of the recent big increases. By graduating two classes at Annapolis far ahead of their time we have gained 280 new officers, and the enlisted strength of the navy has increased from 33,000 to 125,000 since the beginning of the year. By the end of the year we must have 160,000, the limit fixed by the law as it stands to-day. I have no doubt about getting these men, thanks to the new plan of dividing the country into four naval districts and the perfecting of the recruiting organization in each of those districts. One big factor in our favour is the greatly improved chance which the enlisted men now has to become an officer. I am now authorized to appoint 100 enlisted men to Annapolis every year, so the chance of the man who enters the navy as a sailor to become an Admiral is now much greater than it was a few years ago. Last year, an appointment from the rank was the President's gift to his class at the academy."

## INTIMATIONS



JOHNNIE WALKER "White Label" 6 years old.  
JOHNNIE WALKER "Red Label" 10 years old.  
JOHNNIE WALKER "Black Label" 12 years old.


Guaranteed same quality throughout the world.

Agents General, CALDBECK MACGREGOR & CO.  
JOHN WALKER & SONS, LTD. SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS, KILMARNOCK, SCOTLAND.

## Appropriate, always.

With certain dishes, such as *Game, LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE* is *always* appropriate. It is the recognised sauce for such use.

In fact, for everything with which a sauce can be used, *LEA & PERRINS'* is invariably the BEST. It has a refinement of flavour that suits the most delicate dishes and appeals to the most exacting palates.



The Original & Genuine WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE EVER POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY

Which has now borne the Stamp of Public Approval for OVER FORTY YEARS.

# ENO'S FRUIT SALT

PLEASANT TO TAKE.  
REFRESHING AND INVIGORATING.

IT IS VERY BENEFICIAL IN ALL CASES OF

Biliousness, Sick Headache, Constipation, Errors in Diet—Eating or Drinking, Thirst, Giddiness, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold, with High Temperature and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It is everything you could wish as a simple and Natural Health-giving Agent.

Prepared only by  
J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'Fruit Salt' Works, London, England.

SOLD BY CHEMISTS AND STORES EVERYWHERE.

## THE 'CHINA MAIL'

# Typhoon Map and Guidebook

WITH TABLE AND TRACKS OF PAST DISTURBANCES.

Price 50 cents.





# WATSON'S OLD BROWN BRANDY

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QUALITY.

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON &amp; Co., Ltd.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE NO. 616.

### Today's Advertisements

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

S.S. "VENEZUELA"  
FROM SAN FRANCISCO,  
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS,  
SHANGHAI AND MANILA.

THE above-mentioned vessel having arrived from above ports, Consignees of Goods are hereby informed that their Cargo are being landed at their risk into the Hazardous and/or extra Hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk. Consignees of Goods are hereby notified that they must produce an Import permit issued by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bill of Lading can be countersigned.

All broken, gashed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, 13th, August, at 10 a.m.  
All claims must be presented within a month of the steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.  
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after August 14th, 1917 will be subject to rent.  
No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.  
Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

R. C. MORTON,

General Agent.

Hongkong, August 7, 1917. 2016

### THE CALENDAR.

**MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.**  
2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture, Curtains, Pictures, etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Houghts.  
5 p.m.—Meeting of European Branches of the Ministering Children's League at Government House.

### General Memoranda.

**FRIDAY, August 10:**  
10.45 a.m.—Auction of Tobacconists' Sundries, etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Houghts.  
**SATURDAY, August 11:**  
10.30 a.m.—Auction of Household Linen, Brass-ware, etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Houghts.  
**MONDAY, August 13:**  
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Dividend due.  
3 p.m.—Auction of No. 7 Queen's Road Central at Messrs. Hughes and Houghts.  
**WEDNESDAY, August 15:**  
H.K. Tramway Co.—Third dividend due.  
11.30 a.m.—H.K. Steel Foundry Co's. Meeting.  
**THURSDAY, August 16:**  
12.15 p.m.—British Traders' Insurance Co's. Extraordinary Meeting.  
**FRIDAY, August 17:**  
Noon—Auction of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 202 at Mr. Geo. P. Lammer's Sales Rooms.

### 'CHINA MAIL' OVERLAND EDITION.

THE BEST WEEKLY NEWS-PAPER FOR ALL INTERESTED IN HONGKONG AND CHINA GENERALLY.

IF IT BEFORE GOING  
ND THUS KEEP IN  
CH WITH THE

### BIRTHS.

GRAY.—On July 29, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. GRAY, a daughter.

WOODBURN HERON.—On July 29, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. D.A. WOODBURN HERON, a son.

### MARRIAGE.

DUFF-HEWITT.—On Aug. 1, 1917, at Shanghai, Hugh BLAIR DUFF, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Duff of Kilmacdonald, Scotland, to Miss MARY HEWITT, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hewitt, of Shanghai.

### DEATHS.

ANDREWS.—On Aug. 1, at Shanghai, Frank Reginald, second son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. ANDREWS, aged 7 years.

HOPK.—On June 23, 1917, Drowned in the str. Mongolia on striking a mine off Bombay, ERIC HOPK, aged 28 years.

TYE.—On July 29, at Shanghai, Peter, the third beloved son of THOMAS WILLIAM TYE, aged five months.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mrs. MacNIDER and Relatives wish to thank all friends for their kind expressions of sympathy received in their recent bereavement, and are also very grateful for the many wreaths and floral tokens sent.

## The China Mail.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, August 7, 1917.

### CHINA'S DECISION.

It has long been a certainty that the Chinese Government would follow up its rupture of diplomatic relations with Germany by a declaration of war. There has not, from the first, been any important political party in China which has been opposed to that course; and the fact that Dr. SUN YAT SEN sometime ago sent a long telegram of protest to Mr. LYND GERRARD, against China being encouraged to take that step only served to emphasise what an isolated political personage Dr. SUN YAT SEN has become in China. An interesting pronouncement was made in Shanghai about three weeks ago by the leaders of the party to which he nominally belongs. One of our contemporaries had published an article dealing with the activities of the Germans in China and the leaders of the Kuomintang considered that this article would create the impression that Kuomintang as a party are opposed to a Chinese declaration of war against Germany. They therefore issued a manifesto categorically denying this view. This statement said: "It is within the knowledge of the American and Allied Legations in Peking that some of the leading members of the Kuomintang were the first to advocate the entrance of China into the war and to urge on the then Premier TUAN KI SU the necessity of formulating a war-policy that would align China on the side of the democracies. Whilst a few prominent members of the Kuomintang believed that a departure from neutrality might increase the internal difficulties of China, it is undoubted that a majority of Kuomintang members have favoured a Chinese intervention in the war."

And we are in a position to state that even those of our party who have been opposed to war would at once acquiesce in a war decision made by a Government whose loyalty to Republican principles and whose opposition to militarism were not in doubt. It was not, however, made clear in this manifesto that the Party are prepared in the circumstances now existing to support the declaration of war. They could not, indeed, at the time the manifesto was issued give a more definite pledge, because no settled government had then been formed, and it was impossible for them to possess sufficient information to estimate whether there would be any further excuse for the attitude they had taken up. They were not opposed to declaring war, but notwithstanding that they urged TUAN KI SU, the Premier, to formulate a war policy, they subsequently took up a hostile attitude towards him when he asked Parliament for the declaration, because "they regarded TUAN as the political successor of YUAN SHIH KAI." They believed that with General TUAN KI SU in office as Premier, a declaration of war would lead to the re-establishment of autocracy in China and the very militarism which it is the common policy of the Allies to destroy. Indeed, in the manifesto from which we have already quoted the leaders of the Kuomintang declare that General TUAN KI SU's training and experience as a servant of the Manchu autocracy disable him—just as YUAN SHIH KAI was disabled—from governing China as a democratic state. They have now to review their attitude in the light of recent events, which found General TUAN KI SU in control of the forces which have successfully defended and ensured the continuance of the republican form of government. But TUAN has taken office again as Premier, and the question is whether the Kuomintang which has taken up such a strong attitude of hostility against him are satisfied by recent events that they have misjudged him in the past, and whether the Government as it is reconstituted supplies the necessary guarantees that a declaration of war will not be made to serve the ends of the military autocracy in China to the detriment of the growth of the principles of democracy. There should be no difficulty about obtaining satisfactory guarantees on this point.

### NEWS OF THE DAY.

#### LOCAL AND GENERAL

Mr. Sullivan, of No. 4 Blue Buildings, has reported to the Police that someone entered his house by way of the skylight between 7.30 and 10 p.m. yesterday and stole \$230 from a chest of drawers.

The "N. C. Daily News" is authorized to state that the parties in the case of Marsh v. Morris having requested the Judges of His Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court to assess the damages to be paid by the defendant to the plaintiff, the Judges have assessed them at \$20,000.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Allied Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Funds of the Hospitals.

Lo Cheuk Wan	\$ 100
Chan Chik U	100
Chan Cheuk Fan	50
Chai Chan Sam	50
Wo Fat Shing	50
Mr. Chan Pik Chan	50

#### HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

Approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 4th August.

Receipts	Aggregate
for week	31 weeks
This year	10,109 416,985
Last year	10,717 439,804
Decrease	4,008 22,819

#### SUPPLIED BY ALL CHEMISTS.

PHYSICIANS prescribe Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy because it relieves cramps in the stomach and intestinal pains quicker than any preparation they can command. It can be bought from any chemist. A bottle will keep for years and no home is complete without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

### CHINESE AFFAIRS.

[The "China Mail" Service.]

#### LOANS FOR CHINA.

PEKING, Aug. 6.  
There have been many exchanges of opinion between the Minister of Finance and the International Group with regard to the \$100,000,000 loan. The negotiations are very satisfactory.  
Owing to the financial stringency, \$10,000,000 will first be advanced pending a satisfactory arrangement.

#### A JAPANESE LOAN.

The Japan Industrial Bank has advanced \$10,000,000 under the big loan of \$100,000,000.

#### THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

Owing to financial difficulties, the Premier will enlist help from Liang Shik Yi and it is therefore decided to pardon the monarchists.

When war is declared, the Government will probably seize seventeen ships, from which \$9,000,000 can be realised by selling them in auction.  
It is reported that Chang Huan is preparing to flee, as the German barracks will be taken over when war is declared.

#### THE DISTURBANCES IN SZECHUAN.

PEKING, Aug. 6.  
The Government has decided to send 35,000 soldiers in four directions, to quell the disturbances in Szechuan. Tuan Chi Kwei will be in command with Wu Woong Sing, second in command.  
Tuan Chi Kwei will be appointed Governor of Szechuan, and Wu Kwong Sing, Tukwan of Hunan.

#### SALARY FOR M.P.'S.

The Members of Parliament have received the full salary due to them, amounting in all to \$500,000.

#### HANDING OVER THE PRESIDENCY.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 6.  
Tong Fa Lung had an interview with Li Yuan Hung on August 4, to arrange for the ceremony of handing over the Presidency to General Feng Kuo Chang, at which Li Yuan Hung will personally hand over the Seal and the Sword of State in the Grand Ceremonial Hall.

#### CHINA AND GERMANY.

General Feng Kuo Chang has summoned Tuan Ki Su (the Premier) to discuss the declaration of war.  
Tuan Ki Su stated that a declaration cannot be made for one week, owing to the need for preparations.

[Rule's Service.]

New York, Aug. 6.

A Message from Peking states that the Acting President has approved, of the unanimous decision of the Cabinet, declaring war on Germany and Austria-Hungary.

#### EXCITING EXPERIENCE IN A LAUNCH.

#### RESCUE BY A MACAO STEAMBOAT.

The weather yesterday—Bank Holiday—spoiled many launch picnics. One launch—the Vacuum—had a very unpleasant experience in the afternoon. She was observed near Capatsum head-land for the open sea. The weather was so rough that she was apparently unable to turn for fear of being captured by heavy seas on her beam. The *Taiwan* from Macao fortunately hove in sight and blasts of the whistle were blown from the launch for assistance. Those on board the *Taiwan* saw the little launch being tossed about like an egg shell, and every time she dipped her nose in the trough of the sea, the fear came upon the spectators that she would founder. There were several Europeans on the launch, including two or three ladies. Before the *Taiwan* could turn about to go to the rescue, the outgoing steamboat *Chuen Chong*, which was nearer to the launch than the *Taiwan*, went to her aid. All on board the launch were drenched to the skin, and deem themselves very fortunate to have come through the ordeal with no more serious misfortune.  
The *Chuen Chong* deemed it prudent not to proceed to Macao and returned to Hongkong.

A mass meeting of the European Branches of the Ministering Children's League will be held at Government House on Wednesday, August 8th, at 5 p.m. All members and associates are invited.

#### A MASTER REMEDY.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is master remedy for colic, dysentery, and all intestinal pains. One dose relieves a second dose is rarely necessary to effect a cure. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

### THE MAGISTRACY.

#### A DELINQUENT JUROR.

Mr. E. Des Vaux, Secretary of the Hongkong Club, was summoned before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning for having failed to appear when called to Court last Wednesday to serve as a Juror on the Coroner's inquest in connection with the Caine Road collapse.

In answer to the summons Mr. Des Vaux said he was sorry he had failed to be present in Court at the appointed time. He was very busy on that particular morning and did not know it was so late. He apologized for his delinquency.

His Worship accepted the defendant's apology and imposed a fine of \$10.

#### UNAUTHORISED OPIUM.

In Mr. Wood's Court this morning a Chinese coolie pleaded guilty to the charge of being in possession of ten taels of prepared opium other than Government opium.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$750, and, in default of payment, sentenced the defendant to three months' hard labour.

#### A CHARGE OF VAGRANCY.

An Indian fireman charged with vagrancy, was brought before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning and committed to the house of detention.

#### OPIUM IN EXCESS.

Mr. Wood this morning fined a Chinese \$100, with the alternative of two months' hard labour for being in possession of ten taels of opium in excess of the quantity allowed by the Government.

#### A CONSTABLE ASSAULTED.

A Chinese school boy was brought before Mr. A. Dyer Ball this morning on the charges of riding a bicycle without a light, and assaulting a Chinese police constable at Sham-sui-po.

In answer to the charges the defendant said that he had a lamp, but it burned badly. He denied having assaulted the constable and alleged that the luhung had assaulted him. The constable had torn the defendant's coat and dragged him to the Police Station.

After further evidence was given, His Worship imposed a fine of \$2, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment, on the first charge, and on the second charge, the defendant was fined \$20, with the alternative of three weeks' hard labour.

#### THE UNFORTUNATE PEACE-MAKER.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning a Chinese foreman was charged with having assaulted a coolie by striking the latter on the head with a rice hook.  
The defendant explained to the magistrate that he struck the complainant by accident. The complainant's son attacked the defendant as a result of an altercation and the defendant used the rice hook in self-defence. The complainant had attempted the part of peace maker, with the usual results.

His Worship adjourned the case and ordered that an effort be made to arrange a settlement by payment of five dollars compensation.

#### HONGKONG AEROPLANE FUND.

The following statement of receipts and payments for the period 4th April to 20th July, 1917, is forwarded to us for public information:

RECEIPTS.	
Subscriptions as per published list	\$ 13,871.80
Bank Interest	16.40
	13,888.20

PAYMENTS.	
Expenses, advertising, hire of chairs, printing, postage and incidentals	\$ 34.37
Remittances to the Overseas Club, London	—

For cost of an aeroplane.—D. & F. 2500 at 2/4 11/18 = \$6,019.60 and T/T 2500 at 2/0 1/2 = \$7,081.97 = \$12,101.57

DONATION TO ST. Dunstan's Hostel and R. V. C. Hospital £70 each. 21/4 at 3/7 3/16 = \$1,977.88

Balance Surplus transferred to the Overseas Club, Hongkong, for expenditure on "Hongkong Bell" in Nethley Hospital = \$ 473.49 \$13,887.29

#### J. J. BRYAN.

We have examined the above statement of the published list of Subscriptions, Bank Pass Book and Vouchers and certify that same to be correct.

D. K. BLAIR.

G. A. DA ROZA, A.B.A.A. Auditors.

Hongkong, 3rd August, 1917.

### FAR EASTERN MEN IN THE WAR.

Second Lieutenant J. C. Porter of the Machine Gun Corps, formerly with the British-American Tobacco Co. at Shanghai, has been killed in action.

The *N. C. Daily Press* mentions that three regulars from Shanghai are generals—Lieut. General R. N. Bray, Brig. General C. D. Bruce, and Eric-General W. M. Watson.

News has reached Shanghai that Captain Vivyan F. Davies, R.F.C., is in hospital as a result of a bad aeroplane crash; and Lieut. C. W. O. Mayne, R.F.A., has been wounded in the left arm in action in France.

We notice that Temporary Captain Oswald S. Benbow-Rowe, of the Shropshire Light Infantry (formerly with Messrs Shawan, Tomes & Co.) has gained the Military Cross. The official statement says: "He took command of two companies and gallantly led them to their objective. He set a splendid example of courage and initiative."

News has been received in Shanghai of the death of Mr. Edward Mackenzie. Mr. Mackenzie was born in Scotland where he received his education and came to Shanghai at the age of 15, serving his apprenticeship, as an engineer, with Messrs Boyd & Co., after which he joined Messrs Butterfield & Swire, rising to be chief engineer in their service on one of their coastal boats. He received leave to take a store ship from Hongkong to Malta and Marseilles after which he went to Scotland and joined the Seaforth Highlanders in October, 1915. In February, 1918, he was ordered to France and was slightly wounded in April of this year. He rejoined his regiment very recently and was killed in action on July 20.

#### ENEMY DIVIDEND ACCOUNT.

#### A HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK APPLICATION.

An application was made before Sir Haviland de Sarsmarez, Judge of the Supreme Court at Shanghai, last week by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, that an order should be made ordering that it be at liberty to appropriate to itself forthwith the sum of \$719.25 out of the Enemy Dividends Account in the said bank at its Amoy branch, towards the satisfaction of the balance due by Pasadag and Co. to the said bank in respect of the overdraft of the said Pasadag and Co. with the bank.

Mr. G. H. Wright appeared for the applicants.  
Mr. Wright read in support of the application an affidavit by Mr. Irwin Turner, agent for the applicants at Amoy, in which he stated that the firm in question had, by various sums of money received in 1913, an overdraft of \$275,275.15 which was the balance due on December 31, 1916. That sum had been advanced against 959 shares in the New Amoy Dock Co., Ltd. Counsel said he had received a letter from the Crown Advocate stating that H. M. Minister did not oppose the application.  
His Lordship, in making the order, said he thought he might, for the convenience of those interested in matters of this kind, say that an arrangement, which had had his approval, had been made which would dispense with the attendance of the Crown Advocate in Court where the amount in respect of which application was made was under \$1,000. This was merely, in order to save costs and expense, but of course, it was understood that if at any time the Crown Advocate thought he ought to appear or the Court required his attendance, he would attend as he would in cases where the amount was above \$1,000.

#### GERMANY'S DWINDLING RESERVES.

Paris, June 19.—General de Lacroix has made some calculations concerning Germany's reserves. He puts the number of men called to the colours from August, 1914, to June 1, 1917, at 1,130,000, from which he deducts 6,940,000 represented as follows:

Definite losses	3,630,000
Rejected as unfit	2,900,000
Residents (on permission) abroad and wounded under treatment	1,110,000

General de Lacroix takes the German front and in the interior as numbering 4,425,000, so that the reserves now available cannot total more than 725,000. As the men of the 1910 classes cannot be utilised before November 1, Germany must rely meanwhile upon her present reserves to keep her armies at her required strength—that is to say, she will be able to furnish a monthly contingent of 200,000, including men recovered from wounds.

THIS YEAR'S LOSSES.  
This number, however, according to General de Lacroix, is insufficient for last year between June and November the German losses were not fewer than 300,000 a month. While this year, in April and May they were higher, and, indeed, exceeded the number the Germans could replace, since they had to break up several regiments that had just been formed in the interior in order to form the divisions of the series 250, the creation of which had been decided upon in 1916.

General de Lacroix concluded that the German reserves will be found insufficient if the Allies show an activity on all fronts equal to that displayed last summer and during the past two months.

### SIAM AT WAR.

[FROM THE "BANGKOK DAILY MAIL."]

The banks' accounts of all interned Germans and Austrians have been temporarily attached by the Government. The latter is generously allowing a sum of T.S. 4 per diem to the wives and other dependants of the men interned.

Several Germans and Austrians who had apparently been overlooked in the general round-up on Saturday morning, or were absent from their residences, were arrested by the police yesterday and today.

Two Germans, H. Raab and F. Moebus, were this morning arrested in the Sathorn district by Major Forty and Luang Picham, of the Gendarmerie.

One of the Germans arrested on Sunday last, an elderly man, was found to be suffering from leprosy and has been removed from the Concentration Camp to the Contagious Diseases Hospital.  
A number of Germans, who were employed on the Northern Line of railway are being brought down to Bangkok by the train due to arrive at the Bangkok terminus at 8 p.m.

A Naval Prize Board was sitting today to draw up an official report on the condition of the vessels which have been seized.  
A competent authority estimates the total value of the German shipping seized in the river as something in the neighbourhood of T.S. 500,000.

We learn that up to noon today no news had been received at the Netherlands Legation as to whether the Minister was to look after the interests of the late German Charge d'Affaires, this morning paid a visit to Mr. Domela Nieuwenhuis, the latter having paid a visit to the German Legation on Sunday morning.

The late Austrian Charge d'Affaires yesterday visited the German Legation. It is interesting to note that since Sunday last, both the German and Austrian Legation premises have been guarded by military pickets, in order to protect the inmates from possible insurrection.

Mr. E. Altmann, late divisional engineer of the R.R.D., was arrested this morning by the Gendarmes at his residence in the Windmill.

Mr. A. Mehr, who although a German has been officiating as Consul General for Sweden, was interned this morning. The Royal Siam Turf Club has expelled all the German members.

#### SIAM'S MARITIME OPPORTUNITY.

The *Bangkok Daily Mail* says:—  
Siam having passed a regular law for the establishment of a prize court, a Marine Prize Court, the disposal of the enemy ships flowing in the Monsoon rendered a comparatively simple matter. Whatever be the ultimate fate of the vessels in accordance with the code of maritime prize law, it would be a manifest waste of money and of opportunity to let them lie idle, especially in view of the fact of the present shortage of tonnage, which so greatly hampers the Allies and the world's commerce and which has been in the main caused by the murderous sea-policy of the Germans. Siam wants badly a mercantile marine in order to develop among the progressive nations. She will be able to take her due place among the progressive nations. Dr. Remy, the late German Charge d'Affaires, this morning paid a visit to Mr. Domela Nieuwenhuis, the latter having paid a visit to the German Legation on Sunday morning.  
The same authority estimated that the pairs and overhauls of the nine sea-going ships would not cost more than £5,000 sterling a piece, on the average, and that if £2,000 or £3,000 was spent upon each of them, the present freight rates, which are not likely to fall much for a very lengthy period to come. The majority of the vessels would undoubtedly make good profits upon their *ante bellum* runs, while one of them, the *Trojan*, might be put upon a regular service to San Francisco and back, a round trip that would take her about two months. The ship could, in fact, be used as a species of naval reserve, vessels and voyaging in them would afford excellent practical sea training for her naval ratings. The opportunity in this respect certainly seems too good to be missed and by taking advantage of it Siam will aid herself and her Allies and demonstrate to her foes that she was not quite such a negligible quantity as they have seemed to have thought her. Other Powers upon entering the war have put into commission the ships left under their control, and there certainly seems no reason why this country should not do the same. She did not go into the war for the sake of profit, it is true, but this is no reason why she should fail to avail herself of the legitimate chances thrown in her way.

#### HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

BAND PRACTICES AT 6 P.M.  
Friday, August 10th, Tuesday, August 14th, Thursday, August 16th, Wednesday, August 22nd, and Tuesday, August 28th.

ORCHESTRA PRACTICES AT 6 P.M.  
Monday, August 13th, Monday, August 20th, and Monday, August 27th.

MUSIC CLASSES AT 6 P.M.  
Wednesday, August 8th, and Thursday, August 23rd.

CONCERT.  
A Concert will be held in the Police Reserve Headquarters Club, on Wednesday, August 8th, at 8 p.m., at which the Police Reserve Orchestra will attend. Tickets for admission to same may be obtained from the No. 1 Boy at the Club.  
(Sgd.) T. F. FLOOD, A.S.P. (B.)



## TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

## A CABINET FORMED.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 7. M. Kerensky has formed a Cabinet himself taking the portfolios of War and Marine in addition to the Premiership. M. Terestchenko is Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Nekrasoff, Minister of Finance.

## THE "MAN OF THE HOUR" IN RUSSIA.

PETROGRAD, August 5. M. Kerensky alone stands between Russia and ruin. All recognise that the only hope lies in giving M. Kerensky an absolutely free hand to run the Government.

The outstanding features of the Conference of August 5, were M. Tseretelli's emphatic declaration that the war must be continued; M. Cherdiz's affirmation that the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates would not take the power into their own hands; and the latter's criticisms of the Order and Council representatives.

## ARREST OF TWO SOCIALIST LEADERS ORDERED.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 7. In connection with the rising in Petrograd in the middle of July, the Minister of Justice has ordered the arrest of the internationalist socialist leaders, M. Trotsky and M. Dunaievsky, both of whom are members of the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates.

## GENERAL GURKO'S DOUBLE GAME.

PETROGRAD, August 6. At the Conference of August 5, M. Nekrasoff stated that General Gurko was arrested owing to the discovery of a letter to the ex-Tsar, showing that General Gurko remained an adherent of the old regime and counselling others to bid their time, while ostensibly supporting the new order.

## MINISTERIAL RECONSTRUCTION IN GERMANY.

NO SIGN OF A PARLIAMENTARY MINISTRY.

LONDON, August 6. The German Ministerial reconstruction has begun. Five Prussian Ministers and four German Secretaries of State have resigned and their places will be taken by high provincial and municipal officials, except Deputy Spahn, who becomes Minister of Justice, and Baron Kuehlmann who becomes Foreign Minister.

Dr. Helfferich, although he has resigned from the Ministry of the Interior, continues to represent the Chancellor.

The *Vorwaerts*, commenting on the changes, states that they are bureaucratic but Liberal; nevertheless, there is no sign of Parliamentary Ministry.

## GERMAN SUBMARINE AND SPANISH FISHING BOAT.

ATTACK IN TERRITORIAL WATERS.

LONDON, August 6. The Admiralty announces that a German submarine attacked, by gunfire, a Spanish fishing boat in Spanish territorial waters. Two of the crew of the fishing boat were severely wounded.

## GERMAN AEROPLANE LANDS IN HOLLAND.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 6. A German aeroplane landed at Texel, after 60 shots had been aimed at it. The occupants have been interned.

## A CHANGE AT THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY.

LONDON, Aug. 6. The Admiralty announces that Vice Admiral Wemyss has been appointed second Sea Lord, in succession to Vice Admiral Sir Cecil Burney, who will be employed on special duty.

## NEW CONTROLLER OF THE NAVY.

LONDON, August 6. Mr. Alan Anderson, the Director of the Orient Company, has been appointed Controller of the Navy in succession to Sir Eric Geddes.

## MR. GERARD'S REVELATION.

## CLEARING UP DISPUTED ISSUES.

WASHINGTON, August 6. Mr. Gerard, commenting on the Kaiser's letter (summarised in an earlier message), remarks that this very interesting document clears up one issue, namely, the deliberate violation of the neutrality of Belgium. The very weak excuse is added that "news" had been received that France was already preparing to enter Belgium. There was not even a pretence that there had ever been any actual violation of Belgium's neutrality by the French, prior to the German invasion. The Kaiser's second excuse, that the King of the Belgians refused a free passage to the German troops is still weaker and would, indeed, inaugurate a new era of intercourse among nations, if small nations could only preserve their freedom by granting a free passage to the troops of a powerful neighbour.

Mr. Gerard then contrasts the Kaiser's explanation with Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech in the Reichstag, six days earlier, when he said: "There were both throwing arms, cavalry patrols and invading companies in Alsace and Lorraine, and thereby France, although war had not been declared, had attacked our territory." Moreover, the German Ambassador at Paris, when war was declared on August 3, repeated these statements and affirmed that the French aviators had clearly violated Belgium's neutrality, by flying over Belgian territory. The Kaiser, when he wrote his personal explanation on August 6, mentioned no such violation of Belgium.

Mr. Gerard's memoirs will be published piecemeal, and they will extend to 80,000 words.

## GERMANY'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WAR.

NEW YORK, August 6. The American Government is in possession of information showing that Herr Zimmermann, the German ex-Foreign Secretary, admitted to an American diplomat that the German Government was in possession of Austria's ultimatum to Serbia fourteen hours before it was delivered to Serbia.

It is pointed out that this disposes of the German denial of the disclosures in the *Times* regarding the Potsdam Council.

## WAR TAXATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, August 7. The Senate Finance Committee has favourably reported on the War Tax Bill, and proposes to raise \$2,000,000,000 by taxation.

## VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE IN NEW ZEALAND.

WELLINGTON, August 7. The most violent earthquake since the Fifties has taken place in the southern portion of the north island. Great damage has been done, particularly in the Wairarapa district.

## TONGH MINE.

A NEW DREDGE WANTED.

The report of the Tongh Mines, Ltd., for 1916 states that 1,877 tons of tin ore were sold, as compared with 1,817 tons for the year 1915. The amount realised was \$174,895, which is practically the same as last year. The approximate value per ton, however, was \$106.15, as compared with \$105.15 in 1915, an increase of \$1.00 per ton. Taking credit for the decrease from investments, and after providing for depreciation of machinery and plant, the profit for the year to 31st December, 1916, is \$247,079. This has to be added to the balance brought forward from last year, \$19,014, making \$266,094. Dividends equal to 24s. per share, less income-tax, have been paid, leaving to be carried forward to the current year \$20,028. The investments of the company standing in the books at a cost of \$198,312 consist of gilt-edged securities \$96,850 and Mining shares \$209,892. At the 31st December, 1916, the former showed a depreciation in value of approximately 25 per cent., but, on the other hand, the Mining shares, taking the Suipei Besi shares as the conservative valuation of 30s., had appreciated by 10 1/2 per cent. On this basis the market value of the total investments of the company as at 31st December, 1916, was \$218,457, or practically 50 per cent. in excess of their cost. Boring operations have been conducted on a large scale during the year, and the general manager reports that as regards No. 3 mine the boring results show that the prospects are brighter than they were last year, as more karang of better value has been provided, and that it is anticipated that the output from this source will increase. At the same time it must be noted that pending the installation of a new dredge on the No. 6 and No. 7 mines the output is to be expected. The directors endeavoured to place an order for a new dredge early in 1916, but owing to war conditions they found that this was impossible.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

## ENEMY ATTACKS FAIL.

LONDON, August 5. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—

After heavily shelling our positions southward and northward of the Ypres-Comines canal, the enemy attacked astride the canal and momentarily gained a foot-hold at Hollebeke. Our counter-attack immediately drove him out and we took several prisoners.

Elsewhere the enemy's attacks failed.

Our fire repulsed raiders southward of Quenast.

## APPALLING ENEMY CASUALTIES.

LONDON, Aug. 5. Reuters' Correspondent at Headquarters, writing on Sunday, says:—

The weather is improving. There has been much fighting and intense artillery activity throughout the night and morning. The enemy counter-attacks with great weight in the neighbourhood of Hollebeke at dawn. Heavy fighting is reported but the position is obscure.

The Canadians, further south, advanced their posts in the direction of Cite-du-Moulin, with great success at one o'clock in the morning, whereby our line was advanced to a depth of 200 yards towards Lens, on a front of 1,000 yards. Enemy attacks against the new front all failed. Apparently there were appalling German casualties.

We know that even the heavy and sustained German bombardments are inflicting a degree of loss on their own infantry, since they repeatedly shoot short. Proofs are available that the number of guns captured represents the minimum of what the enemy really lost.

Office prisoners admit that the 1918 class of regulars have been embodied and many of the 1919 class are in the field, which indicates that the limit in man-power is being rapidly reached.

## ARTILLERY DUEL VIOLENT ON THE FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, August 5. A communiqué says:—The intermittent artillery duel has been somewhat violent towards Lanyere farm, in the Crèonne sector, and in Champagne.

## GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, August 5. A German official message, transmitted by wireless, says:—Our "shock" troops penetrated French positions at Juvincourt, taking 100 prisoners.

## THE RATTLE OF THE GERMAN SWORD.

SPEECH BY MR. HOLMAN.

LONDON, August 6. Mr. Holman, Premier of New South Wales, speaking at Sheffield, said that as one who all his life had been a pacifist, he had been compelled to adopt the view that peace in Europe and the safety of Democracy could only be secured by the arbitrament of the sword. This war was a war of pacifists against military imperialism, a war of the peace-loving peoples of the world against war-loving peoples. He wanted the war carried to its final victorious conclusion in order that Democracy could devote its energies to the activities of peace. If we accepted the peace for which the so-called pacifists clamoured we should have to devote all our energies to further preparation for war.

Germany would tell her people that the teaching of Bismarck was right; that she had defied the world without punishment. Instead of having conscription as a temporary measure we should have it as a permanent institution. Educational, social and industrial reforms would be delayed a hundred years, and the rattle of the German sword would be heard at the slightest opposition to German Policy.

## A "WIN THE WAR" CONVENTION IN CANADA.

TORONTO, Aug. 5. The "Win the War" Convention closed with a women's demonstration supporting the policy adopted, namely a national non-partisan Government, conscription of men and resources and a scheme providing "Win the War" candidates for each constituency.

The Convention demanded an increase in soldiers' pay and also three months' furlough for the men of the first division.

Subsequently, a delegation visited Sir R. L. Borden who said that as the conflict proceeded it became more and more clear that the full strength of the Commonwealth must be thrown into the balance, if victory was to be secured.

He hoped in the near future that a "Win the War" Government would be formed, irrespective of Party, and including a special representation of the great agricultural labour interests, in which he was fully supported by his colleagues.

## A REICHTAG CELEBRATION.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 6. There was a reception in the Reichstag building to celebrate the signing of August 4th, 1914.

The President of the Reichstag, in the course of a speech, declared that upon their enemies would fall the responsibility if they decline to accept our proffered hand of peace.

The Chancellor and they all knew what was wanted. They would guarantee posterity against the recurrent misfortune of such a war.

## THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

## RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

PETROGRAD, August 5. A Russian official message, transmitted by wireless, says:—

Our scouts in the region of the Kovel-Sarny railway crossed the Stockhol neck-deep, and attacked the Austrian advanced post, bayonetting some and taking the remainder prisoners. Our barrage drove back an attack in the direction of Kovel. We have captured Doljok Wood, eastward of Czernowitz, with 520 prisoners.

The enemy occupied the villages of Molekita and Kotybbanski, southward of Boian. The enemy, after battle westward of the Sereth, captured Neftadov.

We retired eastward under pressure in the direction of Kimpolung. The enemy occupied Yannu.

Our scouts successfully raided in the region of Kotumkhal, bayonetting some of the enemy.

## RUSSO-ROMANIANS REPULSE ATTACKS.

Jassy, August 6. Recent communications continue to report fighting in the Putna and Cusin valleys, where the Russo-Romanians repulsed all attacks launched with the object of regaining positions. The enemy are devastating new areas, which they were forced to abandon. They pillaged everything in the neighbourhood of Solca, and carried off the inhabitants to work in Hungary.

## GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, August 5. A German official message, transmitted by wireless, says:—

There have been violent artillery duels near Brody and Zbruz. We are advancing in the wooded region southward of the Dniester, in the direction of Ghotin. We pressed back the Russians, after battle from Radantz, and crossed the Bistritz between Laing and Brosteni.

## UNDERGROUND HISTORY OF THE WAR.

THE KAISER'S DULCITY.

LONDON, August 6. The *Philadelphia Ledger* publishes the memoirs of Mr. Gerard, the American ex-Ambassador to Berlin, containing the reproduction of an amazing letter written by the Kaiser to President Wilson on August 10th, 1914, in response to the latter's offer of mediation. The statements in the letter, which are denied on the highest British authority, include, one to the effect that King George assured Prince Henry of Prussia, during a visit to London, that England would remain neutral if war broke out involving Germany, France, Austria and Russia.

The Kaiser also insinuates that the British proposed the Austrian capture of Belgrade, and maintains that all was going well in the direction of a settlement when he was surprised to hear of the mobilisation of the Russian Army. The Kaiser admits that the King told him that his offer, to spare France, if Britain would guarantee her neutrality, were based on a misunderstanding, while Sir Edward Grey never took the offer into serious consideration. On the contrary, he declared that England had to defend Belgium, which, says the Kaiser, "had to be violated by Germany for strategic reasons, news having been received that France was preparing to enter Belgium, the King of the Belgians having refused my petition for a passage under the guarantee of his country's freedom."

Mr. Gerard lays stress on the glaring discrepancy between the Emperor's and Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg's statements.

The letter was handed to Mr. Gerard when he interviewed the Kaiser at his castle in Berlin. The Kaiser talked despondently about the war. "I tried to cheer him up," says the Germans, "but he would soon enter Paris." He answered: "The English have changed the whole situation. They are an obstinate nation. They will keep up the war; it cannot end soon."

## THE TORPEDOING OF THE "BELGIAN PRINCE."

COLD BLOODED MURDER.

The Admiralty confirms that a German submarine torpedoed the *Belgian Prince* on July 31st. The crew abandoned the ship in two boats, which the Germans smashed with axes and then deprived the crew of life-belts, leaving the men on the submarine's deck and taking the Captain below. They submerged without warning and the 43 men standing on the deck were all drowned, except three, who secretly retained their life-belts and were picked up after being in the water eleven hours. The three survivors have made affidavits in the support of the details of this atrocious outrage. It is cold-blooded murder, equalling, if not transcending, the worst of the crimes our enemies have committed against humanity.

## AMERICAN FOOD EXPORTS TO NEUTRALS.

NO RE-EXPORT TO GERMANY.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6. An agreement is imminent regarding the shipments of foodstuffs to neutrals guaranteeing no re-export to Germany.

## THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

## M. KERENSKY RE-ACCEPTS OFFICE.

PETROGRAD, August 5. M. Kerensky has re-accepted the Premiership.

## PREMIER'S STATEMENT.

The Premier, M. Kerensky, has issued a statement explaining that his resignation was due to the impossibility of establishing a compromise between the political Parties. He re-accepts office in view of the fact that defeat without disintegration within, was threatening the country. He appeals for the renunciation of Party quarrels and dwells on the stern necessity of carrying on the war, sustaining the Army's fighting forces, and re-establishing a state of economic strength. He emphasises the indispensability of reorganising the Government in accordance with the Government principles already declared.

## THE NEW CABINET.

PETROGRAD, August 6. The Ministers have placed their resignations in the hands of M. Kerensky in order to facilitate the formation of a new Cabinet.

M. Kerensky is busy conferring with politicians.

The Petrograd garrison remained perfectly quiet during the political ferment.

## THE KRONSTADT RIOTERS.

PETROGRAD, August 6. A Military Commission which was sent to Kronstadt to investigate the circumstances preceding the Petrograd rioting, was obliged to return to Petrograd owing to the hostile reception.

## KERENSKY INDISPENSABLE.

PETROGRAD, August 5. The Provisional Committee of the Duma endorsed the all-night conference's decision of the indispensability of M. Kerensky's Premiership.

A joint meeting of the executive of the Soldiers' and Peasants' delegates approved of the decision by 147 votes to 46.

The Maximalists protested.

## LENIN A GERMAN AGENT.

PETROGRAD, August 5. The Public Prosecutor has issued a statement as to why the authorities are prosecuting M. Lenin and his many accomplices for high treason and organising the rebellion. It is established that they were intriguing with Russia's enemies with a view to disorganising the Russian army, for which they have been distributing bribes supplied by enemy countries. The accused are also charged with organising the Petrograd rebellion of July 16th. Investigations disclosed the existence of a vast German spying organisation, which was working throughout Russia. The conclusion is irresistible that M. Lenin was a German agent.

## RUSSIAN OPINION AND THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE.

PETROGRAD, August 6. At a meeting of the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates, M. Rosanoff, a delegate at the negotiations as regards the International Socialist Conference, reported that the date of the conference had been fixed for September 9th. The conditions therefore, were favourable, and all agreed that it would hasten peace. The situation of the Central Powers was somewhat precarious, owing to the breakdown of German policy in Poland, where a revolt was momentarily expected. The German Majority and the Minority Socialists had adopted the Russian programme. The majority of Britishers refused to participate, whereas the French wanted the conference postponed.

M. Rosanoff concluded by saying that the success of the conference depended on the attitude of their British and French comrades.

## THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONFERENCE.

AMERICAN LABOUR OPINION.

NEW YORK, Aug. 6. Mr. Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labour, has issued a statement opposing any International socialist conference at present, as the workers of America, Britain and France are doing their utmost to aid the war against autocracy, while the German workers are helping the Kaiser. Therefore, an International Conference would be positively injurious.

## JAPANESE STEAMER WRECKED.

The s.s. *Dairon-maru* has stranded on Rionaki point in Tagara Strait. It is said that unless the cargo is removed, the salvage work will be difficult. The Japan Marine Engineering and Salvage Company has dispatched two salvage steamers to the scene of the wreck, and hopes are entertained that it will be possible to refloat the vessel, but everything depends upon the weather. It is said that the loss of the *Dairon-maru* will be very serious. The vessel is reported to be insured in the Tokyo Marine Insurance Co. for Yen 1,000,000, but her present value is put down at about Yen 2,000,000.



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## RATS AND THE FOOD SUPPLY.

## IMMENSE FIGURES.

A few years ago (says an English paper) the damage done annually by the brown rat was estimated as follows:—

In Great Britain and Ireland (rural districts only): £15,000,000; Germany, £10,000,000; France, £8,000,000; Denmark, £3,000,000. It has been said that in the United States the annual loss due to rats (brown and black) may be set down between four and five million pounds; and while no accurate statistics are available from other countries there is no risk of exaggeration in stating that the cost to civilisation of the brown rat alone is more than one million pounds weekly.

In the old times of peace it may have been possible that it was his power to disregard the danger; in the war before us it would be well to remember that the extinction of *Mus norvegicus* throughout the Empire would bring about a saving equal to nearly one per cent. per annum of the whole of our war bill. Against the evil that it does the brown rat can advance no compensating benefits. As a carrier and breeder of the flea that is responsible for bubonic plague in human beings it has killed many millions of people, chiefly in India; it is more than a pest of the house; it is a pest of the nation.

Before the principles of modern sanitation were known the rat had its uses; to-day it has not a use to its credit. It survives by rare gifts of cunning and adaptability; by its natural suspicion of man and its quick capacity to scent any danger; the rat is a hardy creature, of burrowing, and so avoiding many enemies, and by extraordinary powers of reproduction. Day in day out some toll is taken of rats, and now that the game-keeper has gone to the war many of its natural enemies—hawks, owls, weasels and the rest—will be able to do the rat no harm. The number of the pest is increasing, and this country remains a considerable one. Go into any farmyard in the land when the threshing tackle is at work, and you will find that each attack holds rats in varying strength. Sometimes no more than a dozen will be found, sometimes the number will be nearer a hundred and in some cases will exceed it. A fully-grown rat will eat a pound of grain in a week and, given the opportunity, will spoil much more. In winter it lives in the unthreshed stacks, in the barn, under the granary floor, under the eaves, sometimes even under the floorboards. It is quiet by day, active by night. Behind the waistcoat of an old house when all is still you can hear constant scampering, continuous squealing, that is not of anger or alarm; there is a merry communal life of some kind. As far as the writer can judge, racing is a popular pastime among rats; he has heard distinctly the start and finish of many a race, the squeals of excitement accompanying the winner. As soon as the winter is over rats leave the buildings for the hedgerows, and, woe to the poultry rearer or the gardener who does not take full care of his property. The rat will burrow deeply to reach the young chickens. The vegetables in large numbers are the vegetables of carrying off eggs is highly ingenious; the egg is pressed under the neck with the paw and the thief goes off on three legs unless the way to his hole is along a decline in which case he rolls the egg before him as though it were a ball. Figeon-houses against a barn wall are one of the objectives of the rat; the writer has such a house capable of holding twenty pairs of pigeons and now against the brown rat. The eggs of the pheasant and the partridge are taken in large numbers; so are the vegetables and small fruit of summering, and the windfalls of the later year. Even young pigs and lambs are not safe from attack by rats.

## A ROUTE MARCH BY THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

In the House of Commons recently Mr. Fitzpatrick asked the Under-Secretary of State for War if he is aware that the Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment, stationed at Canterbury, recently, on a very hot day, at 6.30 a.m., ordered D Company, 27th Battalion, Old Park Camp, for a route march; that he loaded each man with pack and ammunition to the weight of 90lb.; that those who finished did some seventeen miles before getting back to dinner, that several collapsed on reaching camp, that three men had died in hospital, and that one man has gone blind as a result of this treatment; and what steps the War Office intend taking to put a stop to this method of training?

Mr. Macpherson: The facts are that the troops to which my Hon. Friend probably refers were ordered to do a route march. They were equipped in ordinary marching order, and marched 12 miles, starting at 6.30 a.m. Out of a force of some 2,000 men three only were brought in by ambulance. No death or any case of blindness has occurred in the battalion referred to. Unless men are trained to march they will not be capable of doing so when they are required to in an emergency.











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